

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994

SUBPART II
FISHING DEVICES

324.48703 Fishing means or device; lines; hooks; tip-up or similar device; spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow; order to regulate nets.

Sec. 48703. (1) A person shall not take, catch, or kill or attempt to take, catch, or kill a fish in the waters of this state with a grab hook, snag hook, or gaff hook, by the use of a set or night line or a net or firearm or an explosive substance or combination of substances that have a tendency to kill or stupefy fish, or by any other means or device other than a single line or a single rod and line while held in the hand or under immediate control, and with a hook or hooks attached, baited with a natural or artificial bait while being used for still fishing, ice fishing, casting, or trolling for fish, which is a means of the fish taking the bait or hook in the mouth. A person shall not use more than 3 single lines or 3 single rods and lines, or a single line and a single rod and line, and shall not attach more than 6 hooks on all lines. The department shall have the authority to decrease the number of rods per angler. However, the department shall not reduce the number of rods per angler to less than 2. For the purposes of this part, a hook is a single, double, or treble pointed hook. A hook, single, double, or treble pointed, attached to a manufactured artificial bait shall be counted as 1 hook. The department may designate waters where a treble hook and an artificial bait or lure having more than 1 single pointed hook shall not be used during the periods the department designates. In the Great Lakes or recognized smelt waters, any numbers of hooks, attached to a single line, may be used for the taking of smelt, alewife, or other bait fish.

(2) A person shall not set or use a tip-up or other similar device for the purpose of taking fish through the ice unless the name and address of the person owning the tip-up or other similar device is marked in legible English on the tip-up or other similar device or securely fastened to it by a plate or tag.

(3) The department may issue an order to regulate the taking of fish with a spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow in the waters of this state.

(4) The department may issue an order to regulate the taking of fish with nets in the waters of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 291, Imd. Eff. Oct. 6, 2008;—Am. 2012, Act 245, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 471, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48703a Sport fishing; regulation by commission; issuance of orders; providing copy of order to legislature; appropriation.

Sec. 48703a. (1) The legislature finds and declares that aquatic invasive species, including Asian carp, represent a significant threat to the state's fisheries, aquatic resources, outdoor recreation and tourism economies, and public safety.

(2) The commission has the exclusive authority to regulate sport fishing under this part. The commission shall, to the greatest extent practicable, utilize principles of sound scientific management in making decisions regarding the regulation of sport fishing under this part. The commission may take testimony from department personnel, independent experts, and others, and review scientific literature and data, among other sources, in support of the commission's duty to use principles of sound scientific management. The commission shall issue orders regarding the regulation of sport fishing under this part following a public meeting and an opportunity for public input. Not less than 30 days before issuing an order, the commission shall provide a copy of the order to each of the following:

(a) Each member of each standing committee of the senate or house of representatives that considers legislation pertaining to conservation, the environment, natural resources, recreation, tourism, or agriculture.

(b) The chairperson of the senate appropriations committee and the chairperson of the house of representatives appropriations committee.

(c) The members of the subcommittee of the senate appropriations committee and the subcommittee of the house of representatives appropriations committee that consider the budget of the department of natural resources.

(3) For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, there is appropriated for the department the sum of \$1,000,000.00 to implement management practices necessary for rapid response, prevention, control, or elimination of aquatic invasive species, including Asian carp. Any portion of the amount under this section that is not expended in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 shall not lapse to the general fund but shall

be carried forward in a work project account that is in compliance with section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

History: Add. 2013, Act 21, Imd. Eff. May 8, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 281, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2015, Act 12, Eff. July 13, 2015;—Am. 2016, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2016.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This act reenacts all or portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108. If any portions of 2012 PA 520 or 2013 PA 21 or 2013 PA 22 or 2013 PA 108 not amended by this act are invalidated pursuant to referendum or any other reason, then any such invalidated portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108 which are otherwise included in this act, shall be deemed to be reenacted pursuant to this act."

Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 2. If any part or parts of this act are found to be in conflict with the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, or federal law, this act shall be implemented to the maximum extent that the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, and federal law permit. Any provision held invalid or inoperative shall be severable from the remaining portions of this act."

Public Act 281 of 2014 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const 1963, art II, § 9. The initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Senate on August 13, 2014 and by the House of Representatives on August 27, 2014. The initiative petition was filed with the Secretary of State on August 27, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48704 Gill net; cisco.

Sec. 48704. A person holding a resident fishing license may take cisco with 1 gill net, not exceeding 165 feet in length and having meshes not less than 2 inches or more than 4 inches extension measure, between November 15 and December 10 of each year in those inland lakes and under rules promulgated by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48705 Reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, and crustaceans; manner and times of taking; fishing license for turtles or frogs; commercial reptile and amphibian license; fee.

Sec. 48705. (1) Reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, and crustaceans may only be taken in a manner and during those times prescribed by the department. Persons taking, trapping, catching, or fishing for turtles or frogs for their personal use shall have a valid fishing license issued pursuant part 435.

(2) A person shall not take, trap, catch, or fish for reptiles or amphibians for commercial purposes unless he or she purchases an annual commercial reptile and amphibian license for a fee of \$150.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48706 Seines or nets; prohibited use near dams; definition.

Sec. 48706. Except as otherwise provided by law, a person shall not fish with any kind of seines or nets within a radius of 100 feet of or from any dam, frighten or hinder fish from the free passage up or down a fish chute or ladder, or place any obstruction or device in or across any race, stream, or river in this state in a manner that obstructs the free passage of fish up and down the race, stream, or river. For the purpose of this part, a dam is an artificial barrier or obstruction placed in a river or stream in this state which changes the natural elevation of the water level more than 2 feet.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48707 Lamprey control weir; prohibited waters for fishing.

Sec. 48707. A person shall not fish within a distance of 100 feet upstream or downstream from a lamprey control weir installed by the department or the United States fish and wildlife service and designated by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48708 Smelt nets; length; mesh; license fee; marking.

Sec. 48708. A person may use a net not more than 50 feet in length and having meshes not less than 1-1/4

inches or more than 1-3/4 inches to take smelt in waters along the shores of the Great Lakes and connecting waters of the Great Lakes, as designated by the department. The annual license fee for each net described in this section is \$3.00. When a net described in this section is set, there shall be affixed to both ends of the net a buoy or staff marker that has affixed to it the name, address, and license number of the owner of the net.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48709 Dam or barrier; destruction or interference prohibited.

Sec. 48709. A person shall not destroy or attempt to destroy, or interfere with in any manner, any artificial dam or barrier placed in a trout stream under the direction of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48710 Applicability of part to gaff, landing net, person propagating fish, or to fish caught by device; requirements as to landing net.

Sec. 48710. (1) This part does not prohibit the use of a gaff, except on or along trout streams, or a landing net to assist in landing fish already caught by a lawful device. This part does not apply to a person engaged in the business of propagating fish under part 459 or to fish caught by a device for which a lawful permit or license is obtained from the department under this part.

(2) A person shall not use or possess a landing net more than 5-1/2 feet in circumference or with a handle exceeding 14 inches in length on a trout stream during the months of April, May, and June.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48711 Possession of fishing devices; prohibition; confiscation; exceptions; evidence; certain controls not affected.

Sec. 48711. A person shall not have in his or her possession any net, set lines, jack or other artificial light of any kind, dynamite, giant powder, or other explosive substance or combination of substances, hook and line, or any other contrivance or device to be used for the purpose of taking fish in violation of this part or any other act or part. Any such property, contrivance, or device found in the possession of a person or found in a boat, boathouse, or any other place on any of the waters of this state or along the shores of the waters of this state shall be confiscated and disposed of in the manner provided by law. A person shall not have a gaff in his or her possession on or along any trout stream in this state or use, except from June 1 to Labor Day, on any trout stream a single hook of any kind that is more than 3/8 inches between the point of the hook and the shank. This section does not prohibit the use or possession of minnow seines, minnow traps, or dip nets as provided in section 48730 or the use and possession of seines, nets, spears, or artificial lights for the use of which a lawful permit or license has been issued by the department. A person may have in his or her possession an artificial light of any kind for taking white bass. Commercial anglers who have licenses to take fish in the Great Lakes may have in their possession nets or hook lines for that purpose only. In prosecutions for the violations of this section, and in proceedings for the confiscation of the property described in this section, the possession of any such property, contrivance, or device or, when not found in possession of any person, the presence of any such property in a boat, boathouse, or any other place on the waters of this state or along the shores of the waters of this state is prima facie evidence that the property is owned, possessed, or used for the purpose of violating this part. The possession of any such property, contrivance, or device on the waters of this state that are closed to all fishing during the closed season on or along those waters is prima facie evidence that the property is owned, possessed, or used for the purpose of violating this part. This act or any other act does not apply to the department in its program in fisheries management or in the control of aquatic vegetation by individuals under permit issued by the department when, in the opinion of the department, that control is not inimical to the public interest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48712 Fishing in propagating beds prohibited; exception.

Sec. 48712. A person shall not catch any fish or attempt to catch any fish in any manner in any lake,

stream, or pond or portion of any lake, stream, or pond that is used by the state or federal government for the propagation of fish, except in the portion or portions of the lake, stream, or pond as may be designated by the department as open to fishing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48713 Fishing to remove eggs prohibited.

Sec. 48713. A person shall not catch any game or nongame fish in any manner in any lake, stream, or pond or in the Great Lakes for the purpose of removing its eggs.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48714 Nonresident as commercial fishing guide; “commercial fishing guide” defined.

Sec. 48714. (1) A nonresident who resides in a state or country that does not allow residents of this state to act as commercial fishing guides within that state or country shall not act as a commercial fishing guide on the inland waters of this state.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a nonresident shall not act as a commercial fishing guide on the inland waters of Gogebic or Iron county.

(3) As used in this section, “commercial fishing guide” means a person who, for a fee or other consideration of value, regardless of whether the fee or consideration is paid directly or indirectly, is present and provides assistance to another person in pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to take fish.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA